

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6973

BILL NUMBER: HB 1274

NOTE PREPARED: Mar 6, 2007

BILL AMENDED: Feb 8, 2007

SUBJECT: Accident Response Service Fees.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Herrell

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Bray

BILL STATUS: As Passed House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) *Accident Report Fees:* The bill provides that the fee charged for a copy of an accident report may not exceed \$8. It provides that certain law enforcement agencies may not charge a fee for the inspection of an accident report, including scanning the report with a personal scanning device.

Accident Response Service Fees: The bill prohibits political subdivisions or local law enforcement agencies of political subdivisions from imposing or collecting an accident response service fee on or from the driver of a motor vehicle or any other person involved in a motor vehicle accident.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: (Revised) *Accident Report Fees:* Accident reports are available through the Indiana State Police (ISP) or its vendor for a fee of \$12 per report, or 100 reports for \$1,000. (Subscription fees are negotiated with the vendor.) ISP receives 10% of all fees collected. Based on an estimated six-year volume of 32,100 accident reports per year, limiting the fee to \$8 would reduce revenues for ISP by \$12,840 - assuming the existing contract is modified to incorporate the new fee limitation.

Background: Revenues from accident reports are placed in the state Accident Report Account to be expended by the State Police superintendent for purposes related to the keeping of accident reports and records or the prevention of street and highway accidents.

ISP contracted with a vendor to develop and maintain the statewide accident report data base in August 2006. Included in the contract is an exhibit with the fees that may be charged for individual reports and for bulk rates. Prior to the contract, ISP sold the reports directly. On average between FY 2001 and FY 2006, annual revenues to the account were \$96,275, representing about 32,086 reports based on the prior \$3 fee. Based on this volume, assuming each report sells for \$12, ISP would receive \$38,520 annually. Under the bill, the fee would be reduced to \$8, and ISP would receive \$25,680, a reduction of \$12,840.

Actual Fees from Providing Accident Reports and Estimated Number of Reports Provided FY 2001 to FY 2006 (Assumes \$3 per report)						
Fiscal Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Revenue (Actual)	\$107,931	\$99,477	\$89,153	\$102,039	\$90,268	\$88,673
No. of Reports (Est'd)*	35,977	33,159	29,718	34,013	30,089	29,558
*During the period shown in the table, state statute had a floor price of \$3. The floor was raised during the 2006 legislative session to \$5 which would have effect in FY 2007.						

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: (Revised) *Accident Report Fees:* Under the bill, the upper limit for a fee fixed by ordinance for accident reports would be established at \$8. The average cost for a report was \$3 based on a review of CY 2001 revenues for 78 counties representing 92% of the state population. (Note: The minimum amount for an accident report was increased from \$3 to \$5 in 2006).

Under current law, the fee from an accident report supplied by a county office is placed in a local Accident Report Account to be expended for a purpose related to the keeping of accident reports and records or the prevention of street and highway accidents. The fee from a report supplied by a city or town is placed in the Local Law Enforcement Continuing Education Fund. On average, counties collect \$5,200 per year, based on a review of CY 2001 revenues for 78 counties representing 92% of the state population.

Information on report fees for city or town police was not available. Police departments in cities and towns in Indiana would also receive new money for these accident reports depending on how much they increase their report fees.

Accident Response Service Fees: To the extent that a political subdivision or local law enforcement agency imposes or collects accident response service fees, revenues to these agencies could be reduced. There are no statewide data to indicate how many entities may be imposing these fees or the amount of the fee.

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Political subdivisions; Local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Indiana State Police

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